1895.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S

Report

TO THE

CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS

OF THE

MONK BRETTON

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Barnsley:

J. E. VERO, THE PRINTERY, MARKET ST., BARNSLEY.

1895.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S

Report

TO THE

CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS

OF THE

MONK BRETTON

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Barnsley:

J. E. VERO, THE PRINTERY, MARKET ST., BARNSLEY.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29802829

To the Chairman and Members of the Monk Bretton Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

Number of Deaths Registered.

During the year of 1895, 76 deaths were registered in your district at all ages (five fewer than in 1894); of this number there were 39 males (3 of which were illegitimate) and 37 females.

Number of Births Registered.

The number of births registered for the same period was 171 (of which number 9 were illegitimate—6 males and 3 females), or 38 more births than in the previous year, 1894.

The Death-Rate and Birth-Rate.

The death rate per 1,000 upon the population of 3,495 was 21·7, and the birth rate was 42·02. Of the total number of deaths and of births registered in 1895, the deaths were fewer by 5, and the births more by 38 than in the previous year, 1894.

Classification of Deaths at various ages.

The number of deaths under the usual classification of ages was as follows:—

Under one year	22
One Year and under five	10
Five years and under fifteen ...	7
Fifteen years and under twenty-five	4
Twenty-five years and under sixty	16
Sixty years and upwards	17
Total	76

Causes of Death and number from the causes.

The causes of death and the number of deaths registered, were as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	2
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	2
Measles	1
Diarrhœa	2
Phthisis	5
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	19
Heart Disease	5
Injuries	5
All other Diseases...	35
Total Deaths	76

Number and names of Diseases, and months in which they were reported.

The number of Infectious Diseases, the names of the Diseases, and the months in which they were reported were as follows:—

Months.	Total Cases.	Scarlet Fever.	Typhoid Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.
January...	9	7	1		1
February	7	6		1	
March ...	8	7		1	
April ...	4	3			1
May ...	2	1	1		
June ...	5	5			
July ...	6	6			
August ...	5	5			
Sept. ...	6	4	2		
October...	6	6			
November	6	6			
December	1		1		
TOTALS...	65	56	5	2	2

Localities in which Diseases occurred.

The localities in which the cases were reported to have broken out, were as follows :—

Monk Bretton	33	cases.
Littleworth	3	,,
Cliffe Bridge	3	,,
Smithies	7	,,
Smithies Wood	18	,,
Old Mill	1	case.
Total	65	

Scarlet Fever, as will be observed, has again been our great source of trouble. Everyone of these 56 cases was visited by your Inspector, and the great majority by me also.

Notifications were sent to the heads of the several schools, of the existence of fever in the homes of children attending their respective schools, and ample supplies of disinfectants were promptly distributed.

Difficulty to obtain Notification and Isolation.

One of the most difficult things we have to contend with is to obtain an early notification, and procure isolation ; and if we urge the parents to send their children to the Kendray Hospital, they all seem to think that we (Medical Officer and Inspector) have a special pecuniary interest in asking them to do so ; and they do not hesitate to tell us so.

Others seem to think we have in view some object which they cannot understand ; nor can they be persuaded that it is to their own interest and of the Public, that isolation should be obtained.

The spread of Infectious Diseases.

Many Parents seem to delight in the fact that their children have had the disease, and accordingly let them run about as they like *during the peeling stage, when the disease is most infectious.*

Infection is spread in the most thoughtless way. Women with children in their arms will go into their neighbours' houses, where persons are suffering from some infectious disease; and, even when such cases terminate fatally, the relatives of the deceased (as a grand climax to their stupidity) will invite young persons, and even children, to view the corpse, and attend the funeral. Until people become better educated and are made more sensible of the danger that arises from their habitual disregard of the advice given them by those who know better, I fear we shall annually have to report the prevalence of this disease.

It seems to me such an anomaly, that while so many precautions and so much cost and care should be required by the Legislature, and adopted with regard to pigs and beasts when suffering from disease, and that their owners should be compelled under penalty to obey the law, the parents or guardians of children suffering from Scarlet Fever are allowed to spread the disease with impunity.

The tables A B & C enclosed will explain their meaning.

Absence of Small Pox and Cholera.

It is satisfactory to state that there was no case of Small Pox or Cholera reported.

Notices of Nuisances served and being abated.

During the year, 34 notices have been served on the owners, or their agents, to abate nuisances, and in every case the nuisance has been removed or abated. 12 closets and ashpits that were defective have been altered, sink pipes have been disconnected and properly trapped, 6 cellars with top water running into them have been drained, 11 sink pipes have been repaired.

System for Drainage of Townships.

During the year considerable time and expense have been expended in formulating a complete system for the drainage of the Township, but as yet the scheme has not been finally approved.

Inspection of District.

During the year I repeatedly inspected the district, and, when necessary, drew the attention of your Inspector to what was required to be done, and everything that was necessary was done.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN BLACKBURN,

Medical Officer of Health.

Barnsley,
January, 1896.